

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

NIC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01

SS-15 /135 R

DRAFTED BY IO: MFHERZ: ERM

5/31/73 EXT. 29602

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EA/ K - MR. RANARD (DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104891

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, UN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN OBSERVER MISSION

REF: USUN 2033

1. WE AGREE WITH USUN THAT WE SHOULD INFORM UN LEGAL COUNSEL THAT US IS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO ISSUE VISAS TO DPRK OBSERVER MISSION IF UNSYG DECIDES TO GRANT A SUITABLY FRAMED REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS. BEFORE AUTHORIZING NEW YORK, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN OUR REASONS FOR OUR POSITION, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF REPORT FROM USUN THAT ROK WILL REQUEST THAT WE OPPOSE THE GRANTING OF SUCH STATUS TO NORTH KOREA. OUR REASONS FOR PROPOSING TO GIVE POSITIVE RESPONSE TO UN, WHICH ARE ALSO REASONS WHY WE WOULD STRONGLY COUNSEL AGAINST EFFORT
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TO OPPOSE OBSERVER STATUS, ARE FOLLOWING:

A. IT IS LONG- STANDING PRACTICE OF UN TO GRANT OBSERVER STATUS TO STATES MEMBERS OF AT LEAST ONE SPECIALIZED AGENCY, ASSUMING SUCH STATES TO BE GENERALLY RECOGNIZED BY UN MEMBERS. DPRK QUALIFIES UNDER THESE CRITERIA, AND IT IS THEREFORE HIGHLY UNLIKELY (INDEED, VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE) THAT WE COULD DISSUADE SYG FROM GRANTING OBSERVER STATUS. IN OTHER WORDS, EFFORT TO OPPOSE OBSERVER STATUS (AND DENIAL OF VISAS, OR UNWILLINGNESS TO GIVE ASSURANCES THAT VISAS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING) WOULD BE SEEN AS ATTEMPT TO " CHANGE THE RULES" IN THE UN AND THUS AS RETREAT FROM POSITIONS WE HAD TAKEN PREVIOUSLY.

B. IT WOULD ALSO BE REGARDED AS CHURLISH AND UNREALISTIC, NOT ONLY BY UN BUT EVEN BY MEMBER STATES WHO HAD SUPPORTED ROK AND US IN OPPOSITION TO DPRK MEMBERSHIP IN THE WHO. WE WOULD BE REGARDED AS " BAD LOSERS" ENGAGING IN UNPROFIT- ABLE AND PRO FORMA REARGUARD ACTION WITHOUT ANY PRACTICAL PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO DEMONSTRATE OUR CONTINUING OPPOSITION TO DPRK MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZA- TIONS.

C. THIS IN TURN WOULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT ON STANDING OF ROK AND ON POSITIONS REGARDING KOREAN ITEMS THAT ROK AND US MAY WISH TO PROMOTE IN THE UPCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY. ANY SUBSEQUENT ADJUSTMENTS IN ROK POLICY WOULD HAVE LESS IMPACT IF VIEWED AS REACTION TO DEFEAT ON OBSERVER QUESTION AS WELL AS ADVERSE WHO VOTE.

2. IT WILL BE APPARENT FROM FOREGOING THAT WE SEE THIS QUESTION AS SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM OVERALL QUESTIONS OF POLICY WHICH ARE CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW IN SEOUL AND WASHINGTON IN LIGHT OF ADMISSION OF DPRK TO WHO AND OTHER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. WE SHOULD TRY TO KEEP THESE MATTERS SEPARATE, AND FOR THAT REASON HOPE ROK WILL UNDER- STAND WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO BROADER POLICY DISCUSSIONS WE WILL HAVE WITH ROK, WHY WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVES BUT TO ACCEPT GRACEFULLY DPRK OBSERVER STATUS WHICH WAS FORESEEN BY BOTH US AND ROK AS CONSEQUENCE OF ADVERSE WHO VOTE AND WHICH IN OUR VIEW IS INEVITABLE. RUSH
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